



2005-06

# **The Recovery School District is a “District in Academic Crisis”**

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2008-09

## Introduction

During the 2008-09 school year, 92% of the schools in the Recovery School District (RSD) would have been classified as lower performing schools by the Louisiana Department of Education (LDOE).<sup>1</sup> Therefore, it is difficult to understand what has been “turned around” by the RSD, except for the proliferation of charter schools and the stagnation of the direct-run, traditional schools, particularly the high schools. The RSD was carved from a “district in academic crisis,” and during the 2008-09 school year, still qualified as a “district in academic crisis.” *The results in this report are based upon the most recent data from the Louisiana State Department of Education, i.e., School Performance Scores (SPS) that are the major indices of academic achievement. They will be updated for the 2009-2010 school year when the state releases its new average 2010 SPS and the 2010 baseline SPSs for individual schools to the public.*

## Background

In November 2005, following the catastrophic decimation of the city by Hurricane Katrina, Orleans Parish was declared a “district in academic crisis” by the Louisiana Department of Education (LDOE).<sup>2</sup> Under legislation known as ACT 35, schools with a 2005 baseline SPS below the State’s average SPS of 87.4 were declared as failing, taken over by the LDOE and transferred to the Recovery School District (RSD). Of the 108 Orleans Parish schools with a Spring 2005 SPS, 95 schools had a SPS below the State’s average of 87.4 and 13 were above. For those readers who are not familiar with the terminology used in this report ( i.e., SPS, performance labels, etc.), refer to Appendix A for general descriptions of these terms. Appendix B presents the list of all schools that scored below the State’s average of 87.4 in 2005.

Before proceeding, the following points must be put into perspective with respect to the takeover:

1. The LDOE classifies 1-Star schools as lower performing schools but not as failing.<sup>3</sup> Two-Star schools are considered as higher performing schools. Of the 95 schools taken over in Orleans Parish, 68 were Academically Unacceptable (AU); 23 were 1-Star; and four were 2-Stars. The 13 schools that scored above the State’s average remained with the Orleans Parish School Board (OPSB).
2. In 2005, approximately 50% of all Louisiana schools were below the State’s average of 87.4.<sup>4</sup> Of the approximate 1,355 schools with SPS scores, 13% were labeled as AU; 26% as 1 Star and 11% as 2 Stars.<sup>5</sup> The 95 schools in Orleans represented only 14% of all schools scoring below the State’s average. The State had previously enacted legislation that conveniently shielded the other 86% of schools scoring below the State’s average.<sup>6</sup> Of the 170 AU schools statewide that scored below the

State's average, only 40% were in Orleans Parish. One must seriously question the educational and political justifications for a seemingly arbitrary and capricious move by the State for only Orleans Parish.

Indeed, the majority of OPSB schools were academically pathetic prior to Katrina. Sixty-two percent of the 108 schools were labeled as AU. Although modest progress had occurred at the district level, the vast majority of students were not afforded the educational quality and equity that they deserved. The rationale for the takeover was that the OPSB had failed its students. The LDOE claimed that it could do a better job at educating poor and disadvantaged youth in New Orleans.

After four years, are schools and students better off academically than they were prior to the State takeover?<sup>7</sup> This still remains an extremely controversial subject -- to what extent and for how many students have meaningful and significant academic achievement occurred. Proponents of the takeover invariably focus on emphasizing the dramatic improvements that Orleans has made since Katrina by presenting aggregated data from both the OPSB and RSD.<sup>8,9,10</sup> The major problem with this approach is that it masks the progress, or lack of progress, made by the RSD, thus confusing or intentionally misleading the public. Stakeholders should also be made aware of the magnitude of progress made by the RSD schools, independent of the OPSB, in judging the academic effectiveness of the takeover in 2005. Since the creation of the RSD was basically an experiment with the disadvantaged, it is critical to define and monitor the progress over time to determine whether the academic plight of these students has changed for their betterment.

## **Current Status**

Given the brief background presented above and the impending decision in the fall of 2010 by the Board of Elementary and Secondary Education (BESE) with respect to moving RSD schools back to OPSB,<sup>11</sup> it is important to address several questions regarding the effectiveness of the takeover to date:

1. What type of progress has the RSD made since 2005?
2. What type of progress has been made by schools taken over in 2005 that were also operating as reconstituted schools under the RSD in 2008-09?
3. Would the RSD have qualified as a "district in academic crisis" in 2008-09 based on Louisiana Revised Statute 17:10.6?<sup>12</sup>
4. If the RSD had been labeled a "district in academic crisis", how many RSD schools would have scored below the State's 2009 average SPS of 89.3?<sup>13</sup>

To answer these questions, secondary data that are maintained on the LDOE's web site were analyzed

<b>Table 1</b>			
<b>Question #1: What type of progress have OPSB and RSD districts made since 2005?</b>			
	<b>2005</b>	<b>2008</b>	<b>2009</b>
<b>RSD</b>	50.2* (AU)	51.4 (AU)	54 (AU)
<b>OPSB</b>	113.1* (3-Stars)	96.1 (2-Stars)	104.3 (2-Stars)
<b>State</b>	87.4 (2 Stars)	86.3 (2-Stars)	89.3 (2-Stars)
Sources: 2005 and 2009 Detailed Press Reports.			
*Average 2005 SPS computed from 2005 SPS in Detailed Press Report			

from 2005 and 2009.<sup>14,15</sup> Table 1 addresses the first question. Performance of the OPSB and State are also presented for comparisons. Overall, there have been changes in the District Performance Scores (DPS) for the RSD, OPSB and State since 2005. The RSD has made very modest gains. Both OPSB and the State SPSs have fluctuated. If the RSD and OPSB scores were to be averaged and presented as one SPS for Orleans Parish, one would get a SPS of 79.1. This aggregation masks the poor performance of the RSD and underestimates the high performance of the OPSB. Such an analysis inflates what is really happening and deceives the public. With respect to

changes in the performance labels from 2005 to 2009, the RSD was still labeled as AU; OPSB decreased to 2-Stars, and the State remained 2 at Stars. Considering that the State's 2014 goal is to have each school with a SPS of at least 120, or a performance label of 4-Stars or higher, the performance of all three entities leaves much to be desired in the time frame that the State has established for itself.

Exact comparisons between 2005 and 2009 are difficult and caution is strongly advised in interpreting the percentage point change since the numbers of schools and students were much larger in 2005 than in 2009. In addition, not all of the schools taken over by the RSD had reopened as of 2008-09. See Appendix C for the list of all RSD schools operating in 2008-09 with SPS scores and performance labels.

To compare the progress of "failing" schools that were taken over in 2005 by the RSD and reopened under their control after Katrina would be reasonable. How have they improved under different management types? During the 2008-09 school year, there were 59 RSD schools with SPSs. Thirty-six of these were reconstituted, takeover schools from 2005. They represented 61% of the existing RSD schools operating in 2008-09.

Table 2 addresses Question #2. It shows the changes in SPS performance labels in the 36 schools from 2005 to 2009. Of the 25 schools with an AU label in 2005, eighteen or 72% were

<b>TABLE 2</b>			
<b>Question #2: What changes in performance labels have occurred with the 36 schools taken over in 2005 and operating in RSD in 2009 ?</b>			
<b>Performance Labels of the 36 Schools Taken Over in 2005</b>	<b>Performance Labels of the 2005 Schools in 2008</b>		
	<b>AU</b>	<b>1 Star</b>	<b>2 Stars</b>
69% (N= 25 AU)	72% (N=18)	24% (N=6)	5% (N=1)
28% (N= 10 1-Star)	50% (N=5)	40% (N=4)	10% (N=1)
3% (N= 1 2-Stars)	0	0	100% (N=1)
<b>Total = 36 Schools</b>	<b>64% (N= 23)</b>	<b>28% (N=10)</b>	<b>8% (N=3)</b>
Source: 2005 and 2009 Detailed Press Reports			

still labeled as AU in 2009. Seven, or 29% increased to a 1 or 2-Stars. Of the 10 schools with a label of 1-Star in 2005, five or 50% of the schools decreased to an AU label in 2009. Five either maintained the 2005 label or increased it. The one 2-Star school maintained its 2-Star label in 2009. Of the thirty-six schools, only 8, or 22%, of these schools had a SPS performance label in 2009 that was higher than the SPS performance label in 2005. The SPS performance labels of the majority of these schools either stayed the same or were lower in 2009 compared to 2005. Based on these results, it would appear that any significant improvement claimed by

<b>Table 3</b>	
<b>Question 3. If R.S. 17.10.6 had been applied to the RSD in 2008-09, would it have qualified as a “district in academic crisis”?</b>	
<b>R.S. 17.10.6</b>	<b>RSD</b>
<b>1. 50% of Students Attending AU Schools OR</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>2. 30 or More Schools Labeled as AU</b>	<b>Yes</b>

the RSD must take these facts into consideration when claiming the “turnaround” of these schools. See Appendix D for the list of changes in individual schools’ performance labels from 2005 to 2009.

Table 3 addresses Question #3. During the 2008-09 school year, over 62% of the RSD students attended AU schools and 32 RSD schools were labeled as AU. See Tables 4 and 5 below. Based on R.S. 17.10.6, the RSD would have been labeled

a “district in academic crisis.”

The fourth question deals with the concept of a failing school (R.S. 17.10.7 – ACT35). Just what is meant by a failing school? Is it a school with just an AU label or should it also include other labels; i.e., 1 -Star schools? The term “failing” is a relative term used by the LDOE in its Accountability Program. The State has periodically “raised the bar” as to what is considered “failing” in order to “challenge” the schools and students to “rise” to the higher expectations. BESE voted to raise the cutoff level for failing to a SPS of 65 in 2010-2011 and to a SPS of 75 in 2011-2012. Whether students and schools will rise to these new “challenges” is open to debate. Many of the 1-Star schools in the RSD during 2008-09 will be labeled as AU schools unless they significantly increase their SPSs for 2010 and 2011. See Appendix E for the historical changes in SPS failing levels.

<b>Table 4</b>		
<b>Question 3. If the RSD had been labeled as a “district in academic crisis”, how many schools would have scored below the State’s 2009 average SPS?</b>		
<b>2009 Performance Label</b>	<b>Num Failing RSD Schools</b>	<b>Percent Failing</b>
<b>AU</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>54%</b>
<b>1 Star</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>37%</b>
<b>2 Stars</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2%</b>
<b>Total Number of RSD Schools</b>	<b>59</b>	<b>92%</b>

Source: 2009 Detailed Press Reports

Tables 4 and 5 address the 4<sup>th</sup> question. If the RSD had been labeled as a “district in academic crisis” and if Act 35 had been in force in 2008-09, then 93%, or 55, of the 59 RSD schools would have scored below the State’s average of 89.3. This would have included thirty-two AU schools, twenty-two 1-Star schools, and one

2- Star school. In addition, 93% of the students would have been attending these failing schools (Table 5).

In 2009, all of these schools would have been labeled as failing and eligible for takeover. Therefore, how does the State “takeover” a district that is already a “take over district?” A plausible option, as decision time for BESE approaches, is to dismantle the RSD as a viable governance entity. Fortunately for the RSD, that aspect of ACT 35 expired in 2008. Performance labels that were considered to represent failing schools in 2005 for a “district in academic crisis,”

especially 1-Star schools, are now heralded as evidence of the “successful turnaround” by the RSD and its supporters.<sup>16,17,18</sup> The SPS ranges for each category have not changed since 2005, but the meaning and significance have changed. In 2005, all schools in Orleans with a 2005 SPS below the States’ average were classified as failing, regardless of their performance labels. Are the 1 and 2 Star schools that were considered failing in 2005, now considered successful in 2008-09?

Table 5		
Number and Percent of RSD Students Attending Schools Below State's 2009 SPS Average By Performance Labels		
Performance Labels	Number	Percent
AUS	13,055	62%
1 Star	7,650	34%
2 Stars	430	2%
Total Number of RSD Students	22,594	93%
Source: Oct 1st 2008 Funded MFP and 2009 Detailed Press Reports		

## Conclusion

It is extremely difficult to ascertain what has been “turned around “ under the RSD, except for the proliferation of charter schools and the extent of their success-- yet to be determined. Some RSD charter schools have made or sustained progress since 2005; i.e., Martin Berhman- AU in 2005 to 2- Stars in 2009; Kipp (Mc 15)- 1 Star in 2005 to 2- Stars in 2009; MLK – 2 Stars in 2005 to 2 Stars in 2009. One of the problems with claims of proponents that significant improvement has occurred refers to the meaning and educational significance of the performance labels assigned to schools each fall. Using the State’s average SPS as the cut-off criterion for failing schools in 2005, all AU and 1 Star, and the majority of 2 Star schools were taken over by the State. These schools were labeled as failing because they fell below the State’s average and were in a district that was labeled as being in “academic crisis.” It would be more reasonable to assert that most of the turnaround claims focus on moving schools to that 1-Star status since the RSD had only four 2-Star schools and one 3- Star school in 2008-09. In 2008-09, 38% percent of the RSD schools were 1-Star and 54% were AU. Even if one wanted to maintain that in 2008-09 the 1- Star schools were no longer considered failing, how should their educational significance be construed today, especially in the light of the claims of the

proponents? The LDOE classifies “...schools with the *One Star* and *Academically Unacceptable* Performance Labels (or schools with an SPS of 79.9 or below) as ‘lower performing’ schools....” Schools with labels of 2 Stars and above are considered higher performing schools.<sup>19</sup>

Are the 1- Star schools that were considered failing in 2005, now considered successful in 2008-09? In 2005-06, the RSD was carved from a district in academic crisis with 100% of its schools labeled as failing. In 2008-09, the RSD, despite all the accolades heaved upon it by its supporters, still remains a “district in academic crisis” with 54, or 92%, of its schools considered lower performing by the State. RSD’s traditional schools have all of the AU schools, while the charters primarily have the lower performing, 1-Star schools and four of the higher performing schools. Based on SPS results presented in this report and the State’s 2014 goal of all schools having a SPS of 120, it is extremely difficult to understand how anyone could proclaim the takeover by the State a success.

Finally, it must be emphasized again that the RSD has not presented any empirical, evaluative evidence to support why certain schools are successful and others are not, regardless of management type. There are only SPS indices, proficiency LEAP and iLEAP results, and anecdotal statements from schools and the RSD. They are no studies by individual schools nor the RSD, the LDOE, or the Cowan Institute to assess the achievement, or lack of achievement, results of all management types as a function of numerous school variables. These include but are not limited to attendance, suspensions/expulsions, instructional programs, effective teachers, effective principals, effective Boards, administrative procedures, selection and retention criteria, parental involvement, school climate, cost effectiveness, and a host of other variables. Also, there are no “longitudinal” studies that have been conducted to determine the extent to which the instructional impact under the different management types is sustained over time as students progress through the different systems.<sup>20,21</sup>

## Appendix A

### Description of Accountability Terms

**What is a SPS?** SPS stands for School Performance Score. It is the major index of a school's progress under the Louisiana Accountability Program. It can range from 0 to 120 and above. In complying with the mandates of the No Child Left Behind (NCLB) federal legislation, the state has established a SPS goal of 120 for each school by 2014. In general, the SPS is a composite of achievement test scores; i.e., LEAP, iLEAP, and GEE, attendance/dropouts, graduation rates, depending on whether the school is elementary, middle or high school. However, the important thing to remember about the SPS is that this score determines what achievement performance label (See chart below) is assigned to a school following the Spring Testing for the upcoming school year. For a detailed discussion of these and other terms of the Louisiana Accountability Program, the reader is referred to Title 28 – Education - Part LXXXIII. Bulletin 111—The Louisiana School, District and State Accountability System (Bulletin 111—*The Louisiana School, District and State Accountability System*, [www.doe.state.la.us/lde/saa/2343.html](http://www.doe.state.la.us/lde/saa/2343.html))

**What is the State's Average SPS?** This score represents the average of all SPS scores in the State for a particular testing year. Therefore it is a moving average. It changes from year to year.

**What is a Performance Label?** Currently, the SPS scores are arranged into six categories, labeled from a low of AU to a high of 5 Stars. The State considers schools with an AU or 1 Star label to be lower performing schools in the district. Schools with labels of 2 Stars and above are considered higher performing schools.<sup>22</sup>

( <http://www.louisianaschools.net/lde/pair/1614.html>)

Performance Label	School Performance Score
Academically Unacceptable	Below 60.0
★	60.0 – 79.9
★★	80.0 – 99.9
★★★	100.0 – 119.9
★★★★	120.0 – 139.9
★★★★★	140.0 and above

Source : Bulletin 111, Chapter 11 Performance Labels, Page 15

**What is a District Performance Score?** The District Performance Score (DPS) represents the overall SPS for a Local Education Agency (LEA), e.g., Jefferson Parish School Board, East Baton Rouge School Board, Orleans Parish School Board, Recovery District in Orleans, etc.



## Appendix B

2004-05 RSD Schools That Scored Below the 2005 State's Average  
 Note: File Sorted From Lowest to Highest on 2005 Baseline SPS (Column C)  
 Source: LDOE's 2005 Detailed Press Report

A	B	C	D
School Name	Charter School Status	2005 Baseline SPS	2005 Performance Lab
Joseph S. Clark Senior High School	No	14.6	AU
Fredrick A. Douglass High School	No	15.0	AU
Youth Study Center	No	15.9	AU
Alcee Fortier High School	No	17.0	AU
Israel Meyer Augustine Middle School	No	21.3	AU
Walter L. Cohen High School	No	21.4	AU
John McDonogh Senior High School	No	25.1	AU
John F. Kennedy Senior High School	No	26.1	AU
Carver Middle School	No	26.4	AU
Charles J. Colton Middle School	No	26.5	AU
G. W. Carver High School	No	26.5	AU
Livingston Middle School	No	29.2	AU
Lawless High School	No	30.0	AU
Marion Abramson Senior High School	No	31.2	AU
Phillis Wheatley Elementary School	No	33.8	AU
A.P. Tureaud Elementary School	No	35.5	AU
Florence J. Chester Elementary School	No	35.9	AU
L.B. Landry High School	No	36.2	AU
Dr. Charles Richard Drew Elementary School	No	37.7	AU
Murray Henderson Middle School	No	38.7	AU
Louis Armstrong Elementary School	No	38.9	AU
Vorice Jackson Waters Elementary School	No	40.0	AU
McDonogh #32 Elementary School	No	40.1	AU
Valena C. Jones Elementary School	No	40.3	AU
Morris F.X. Jeff Elementary School	No	40.8	AU
Albert Wicker Elementary School	No	40.8	AU
O. P. Walker Senior High School	No	41.1	AU
Martin L. King Middle School	No	41.3	AU
James Weldon Johnson School	No	41.9	AU
James M. Singleton Charter Middle School	Yes	42.4	AU
Sarah Towles Reed Senior High School	No	42.7	AU
Fannie C. Williams Middle School	No	43.5	AU
McDonogh #42 Elementary School	No	43.8	AU
Lafayette Elementary School	No	44.4	AU
John A. Shaw Elementary School	No	44.4	AU
Laurel Elementary School	No	44.5	AU
F.W. Gregory Junior High School	No	44.6	AU
Mary Church Terrell Elementary School	No	46.0	AU
Harney Elementary School	No	46.3	AU
Fisk-Howard Elementary School	No	46.4	AU
William Frantz Elementary School	No	47.0	AU
Oretha Castle Haley Elementary School	No	47.3	AU
Helen S. Edwards Elementary School	No	47.8	AU
Lorraine Hansberry Elementary School	No	49.0	AU
Thomas Alva Edison Elementary School	No	49.3	AU
Frances Gaudet Elementary School	No	49.4	AU
New Orleans High School Signature Centers	No	49.4	AU

Appendix B (Cont)			
Paul L. Dunbar Elementary School	No	49.5	AU
McDonogh #28 Middle School	No	49.5	AU
Andrew H. Wilson Elementary School	No	49.5	AU
Martin Behrman Elementary School	No	49.9	AU
Carter G. Woodson Middle School	No	50.4	AU
Sylvanie F. Williams School	No	51.5	AU
Joseph A. Craig School	No	52.9	AU
Lawrence D. Crocker Elementary School	No	54.6	AU
Langston Hughes Elementary School	No	54.8	AU
Village de l'Est Elementary School	No	54.9	AU
Ray Abrams Elementary School	No	55.2	AU
Andrew Jackson Elementary School	No	56.0	AU
Agnes L. Bauduit Elementary School	No	56.1	AU
Julius Rosenwald Accelerated School	No	56.4	AU
Bienville Elementary School	No	57.0	AU
Little Woods Elementary School	No	57.0	AU
Ernest N. "Dutch" Morial School	No	57.5	AU
Avery Alexander School	No	57.8	AU
Barbara Jordan Elementary School	No	58.0	AU
Benjamin Banneker Elementary School	No	58.9	AU
A.D. Crossman Elementary School	No	59.6	AU
Rabouin Career Magnet High School	No	61.1	1 Star
Thomy Lafon School	No	61.5	1 Star
New Orleans New Technology High School	No	61.7	1 Star
Mildred Osborne School	No	62.6	1 Star
Lake Area Middle School	No	63.0	1 Star
New Orleans Free School	No	63.6	1 Star
Paul B. Habans Elementary School	No	64.2	1 Star
Sherwood Forest Elementary School	No	64.5	1 Star
McDonogh #07 Elementary School	No	64.6	1 Star
Gentilly Terrace Elementary School	No	65.5	1 Star
Henry W. Allen Elementary School	No	65.6	1 Star
John Dibert Elementary School	No	65.8	1 Star
William J. Guste Elementary School	No	66.2	1 Star
McDonogh #15 Creative Arts Magnet School	No	66.2	1 Star
Ronald G. McNair Elementary School	No	66.4	1 Star
Dwight D. Eisenhower Elementary School	No	67.6	1 Star
New Orleans Charter Middle School	Yes	70.5	1 Star
H.C. Schaumburg Elementary School	No	72.1	1 Star
Harriet Tubman Elementary School	No	73.3	1 Star
William J. Fischer Elementary School	No	73.8	1 Star
Mary D. Coghill Elementary School	No	76.6	1 Star
Thurgood Marshall School	No	77.6	1 Star
Stuart R. Bradley Elementary School	No	78.5	1 Star
Dr. M.L.K. Elem. School for Science & Tech.	No	81.8	2 Stars
New Orleans Center for Creative Arts Academy	No	83.1	2 Stars
Jean Gordon School	No	85.6	2 Stars
Parkview Fundamental Magnet School	No	85.7	2 Stars

## Appendix B (Cont)

Edward Phillips Middle School	Yes	RSD*	RSD*
Sophie B. Wright Middle School	Yes	RSD*	RSD*
S.J. Green Middle School	Yes	RSD*	RSD*
Medard H. Nelson Elementary School	Yes	RSD*	RSD*

\*Taken over by RSD in 2004

<b>Appendix C</b>			
<p>2008-09 RSD Schools With SPS Scores and Performance Labels</p> <p>Note: File Sorted From Lowest to Highest on 2009 Baseline SPS (Column C)</p> <p>Source: LDOE's 2009 Press Report</p>			
<b>School Name</b>	<b>B Charter School Status</b>	<b>C 2009 Baseline SPS</b>	<b>D 2009 Performance Lab</b>
Schwarz Alternative School	No	12.3	AU
Booker T. Washington High School	No	15.8	AU
Fredrick A. Douglass High School	No	18.3	AU
Walter L. Cohen High School	No	20.4	AU
John McDonogh Senior High School	No	21.6	AU
Joseph S. Clark Senior High School	No	21.8	AU
Rabouin Career Magnet High School	No	22.6	AU
G.W. Carver High School	No	28.8	AU
Sarah Towles Reed Senior High School	No	33.3	AU
Carver Elementary School	No	36.1	AU
F.W. Gregory Elementary School	No	37.6	AU
Dr. Charles Richard Drew Elementary School	No	40.7	AU
Harney Elementary School	No	41.5	AU
Albert Wicker Literacy Academy	No	41.7	AU
Laurel Elementary School	No	43.2	AU
Live Oak Elementary School	No	44.0	AU
Julian Leadership Academy	No	46.7	AU
Sarah Towles Reed Elementary School	No	47.2	AU
Joseph A. Craig School	No	48.7	AU
Algiers Technology Academy	Yes	49.9	AU
James Weldon Johnson School	No	51.8	AU
Mary D. Coghill Elementary School	No	53.3	AU
A.D. Crossman-Esperanza Charter School	Yes	53.5	AU
Harriet Tubman Elementary School	Yes	53.7	AU
Sojourner Truth Academy	Yes	54.9	AU
McDonogh #32 Elementary School	Yes	55.4	AU
O.P. Walker Senior High School	Yes	56.3	AU
John Dibert Elementary School	No	56.5	AU
McDonogh #28 City Park Academy	Yes	56.6	AU
James M. Singleton Charter School	Yes	58.8	AU
Benjamin Banneker Elementary School	No	58.9	AU
Paul B. Habans Elementary School	No	59.2	AU
Fannie C. Williams Elementary School	No	60.6	1 Star
William J. Fischer Elementary School	Yes	61.0	1 Star
H.C. Schaumburg Elementary School	No	61.7	1 Star
Gentilly Terrace Elementary School	No	61.8	1 Star
McDonogh #42 Elementary Charter School	Yes	62.0	1 Star
Andrew H. Wilson Charter School	Yes	62.3	1 Star
Murray Henderson Elementary School	No	62.3	1 Star

<b>Appendix C (Cont)</b>			
Nelson Elementary School	Yes	63.7	1 Star
Lafayette Academy of New Orleans	Yes	63.9	1 Star
Langston Hughes Academy Charter School	Yes	64.7	1 Star
The Intercultural Charter School	Yes	65.8	1 Star
Abramson Science & Technology Charter School	Yes	66.3	1 Star
P. A. Capdau School	Yes	66.4	1 Star
Samuel J. Green Charter School	Yes	66.5	1 Star
NOLA College Prep Charter School	Yes	67.1	1 Star
Arthur Ashe Charter School	Yes	67.2	1 Star
Miller-McCoy Academy	Yes	67.5	1 Star
Dwight D. Eisenhower Elementary School	Yes	70.5	1 Star
A.P. Tureaud Elementary School	No	72.4	1 Star
New Orleans Charter Science and Math Academy	Yes	73.6	1 Star
KIPP Central City Academy	Yes	75.8	1 Star
Sophie B. Wright Inst.of Academic Excellence	Yes	79.5	1 Star
KIPP McDonogh 15 School for the Creative Arts	Yes	88.9	2 Stars

**2009-10 RSD Schools That Scored Above the 2009 State's  
Average SPS of 89.3**

Dr. M.L.K. Charter School for Science & Tech.	Yes	91.4	2 Stars
Martin Behrman Elementary School	Yes	95.3	2 Stars
KIPP Believe College Prep (Phillips)	Yes	97.2	2 Stars
KIPP Central City Primary	Yes	114.6	3 Stars

## Appendix D

Comparison of SPS Performance Labels Between RSD Schools Opened in 2005 and 2009.

Source: LDOE's 2005 and 2009 Press Reports

Management Type	School	2005 Performance Label	2009 Performance Label
RSD Traditional	A.P. Tureaud Elem.	AU	1 Star
RSD Traditional	Albert Wicker Literacy Academy	AU	AU
RSD Traditional	Benjamin Banneker Elem.	AU	AU
RSD Traditional	Booker T. Washington High		AU
RSD Traditional	Carver Elementary.		AU
RSD Traditional	Dr. Charles Richard Drew Elem.	AU	AU
RSD Traditional	F.W. Gregory Elem.		AU
RSD Traditional	Fannie C. Williams Elem.		1 Star
RSD Traditional	Fredrick A. Douglass High	AU	AU
RSD Traditional	G.W. Carver High	AU	AU
RSD Traditional	Gentilly Terrace Elem.	1 Star	1 Star
RSD Traditional	H.C. Schaumburg Elem.	1 Star	1 Star
RSD Traditional	Harney Elemen.	AU	AU
RSD Traditional	James Weldon Johnson	AU	AU
RSD Traditional	John Dibert Elemen.	1 Star	AU
RSD Traditional	John McDonogh Senior High	AU	AU
RSD Traditional	Joseph A. Craig	AU	AU
RSD Traditional	Joseph S. Clark Senior High	AU	AU
RSD Traditional	Julian Leadership Academy		AU
RSD Traditional	Laurel Elemen.	AU	AU
RSD Traditional	Live Oak Elem.		AU
RSD Traditional	Mary D. Coghill Elem.	1 Star	AU
RSD Traditional	Murray Henderson Elem.	AU	1 Star
RSD Traditional	Paul B. Habans Elemen.	1 Star	AU
RSD Traditional	Rabouin Career Magnet High	1 Star	AU
RSD Traditional	Sarah Towles Reed Elem.		AU
RSD Traditional	Sarah Towles Reed Senior High	AU	AU
RSD Traditional	Schwarz Alternative		AU
RSD Traditional	Walter L. Cohen High	AU	AU
RSD - Charter	A.D. Crossman-Esperanza Charter	AU	AU
RSD - Charter	Abramson Science & Technology Charter		1 Star
RSD - Charter	Andrew H. Wilson Charter	AU	1 Star
RSD - Charter	Arthur Ashe Charter		1 Star
RSD - Charter	Dr. M.L.K. Charter School for Science & Tech.	2 Stars	2 Stars
RSD - Charter	James M. Singleton Charter	AU	AU

## Appendix D (Cont)

RSD - Charter	KIPP Believe College Prep (Phillips)		2 Stars
RSD - Charter	KIPP Central City Academy		1 Star
RSD - Charter	KIPP Central City Primary		3 Stars
RSD - Charter	KIPP McDonogh 15 School for the Creative Arts	1 Star	2 Stars
RSD - Charter	Lafayette Academy of New Orleans	AU	1 Star
RSD - Charter	Langston Hughes Academy Charter	AU	1 Star
RSD - Charter	McDonogh #28 City Park Academy	AU	AU
RSD - Charter	McDonogh #42 Elementary Charter	AU	1 Star
RSD - Charter	Miller-McCoy Academy		1 Star
RSD - Charter	Nelson Elem.		1 Star
RSD - Charter	New Orleans Charter Science and Math Acad.		1 Star
RSD - Charter	NOLA College Prep Charter		1 Star
RSD - Charter	P. A. Capdau		1 Star
RSD - Charter	Samuel J. Green Charter		1 Star
RSD - Charter	Sojourner Truth Academy		AU
RSD - Charter	Sophie B. Wright Inst. of Academic Excellence		1 Star
RSD - Charter	The Intercultural Charter		1 Star
RSD Charter (ACSA)*	Algiers Technology Academy		AU
RSD Charter (ACSA)	Dwight D. Eisenhower Elem.	1 Star	1 Star
RSD Charter (ACSA)	Harriet Tubman Elem.	1 Star	AU
RSD Charter (ACSA)	Martin Behrman Elem.	AU	2 Stars
RSD Charter (ACSA)	McDonogh #32 Elem.	AU	AU
RSD Charter (ACSA)	O.P. Walker Senior High	AU	AU
RSD Charter (ACSA)	William J. Fischer Elem.	1 Star	1 Star

\*ACSA - Algiers Charter School Association

## APPENDIX E

### LDOE Changes in Achievement Labels and Associated SPS Values Since 1998

Failing School SPS	Years in Force
Less Than SPS of 30	1998 to 2001
Less Than SPS of 45	2002 to 2003
Less Than SPS of 60 – <i>All Parishes Except Orleans Less than State Average (87.4) -Orleans</i>	2004 to 2010 2005-2006
Less Than SPS of 65	Proposed for 2010-11
Less Than SPS of 75	Proposed for 2011-12

Source: Board of Elementary and Secondary Education (BESE)



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## ENDNOTES

- <sup>1</sup> 2005-06, 2006-07, 2007-08 publication of the *Louisiana State Progress Reports*. Note: the 2008-09 publication suspended by LDOE.
- <sup>2</sup> - In 2003, Louisiana Revised Statute 1990 (R.S. 1990) created the Recovery School District (RSD)  
<http://law.justia.com/louisiana/codes/143/211794.html>
- In 2003, Louisiana Revised Statute 17:10.5 (R.S. 17:10.5) established the definition of a “failed school: and established the conditions under which it could be transferred to the RSD. One of which was that if the school had been labeled as academically unacceptable for four consecutive years, would be transferred to the RSD. By the end of 2004, four only four schools had been transferred to the RSD .  
<http://law.justia.com/louisiana/codes/143/206926.html>
- In 2004, Louisiana Revised Statute 17:10.6 (R.S. 17:10.6) established the criteria for a school district in crisis: “...‘Academically in crisis’ means any local system in which more than thirty schools are academically unacceptable or more than fifty percent of its students attend schools that are academically unacceptable”.  
<http://law.justia.com/louisiana/codes/143/285616.html>
- In 2005 after Katrina, Louisiana Revised Statute 17:10.7 (R.S. 17:10.7 - ACT 35) established the criterion that if a school fell below the State’s average; was in a school district in “academic crisis” as per R.S. 17:10.6 as Stated above; and at least one school was eligible to be transferred to the RSD, was declared a failing school and was transferred to the RSD. <http://law.justia.com/louisiana/codes/143/330380.html>
- <sup>3</sup> 2005-06, 2006-07, 2007-08 publication of the *Louisiana State Progress Reports*. Note: the 2008-09 publication suspended by LDOE.
- <sup>4</sup> Calculated from the 2005 Detailed Press Report.
- <sup>5</sup> Ibid.
- <sup>6</sup> R.S. 17:10.6 <http://law.justia.com/louisiana/codes/143/285616.html>
- <sup>7</sup> This report is based on 2008-09 data – the most current data to date. Report will be updated when baseline 2010 SPS data are released by the LDOE.
- <sup>8</sup> Tulane University, Scott Cowan Institute for Public Education Initiatives, *The State of Public Education in New Orleans: 2010 Report*.
- <sup>9</sup> Perry, Andre and Schwam-Baird, Michael, 2010. *School by School: The Transformation of New Orleans Public Education* In The New Orleans Index at Five. Washington, D.C., Brookings Institution and Greater New Orleans Community Data Center.
- <sup>10</sup> *Leslie’s Notebook: 2009 School Performance Scores*.  
<http://www.educatenow.net/>
- <sup>11</sup> R.S. 17:10.7 - ACT 35.
- <sup>12</sup> R.S. 17:10.6 <http://law.justia.com/louisiana/codes/143/206926.html>
- <sup>13</sup> R.S. 17:10.7 - ACT 35 <http://law.justia.com/louisiana/codes/143/330380.html>

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- <sup>14</sup> 2005 and 2009 Detailed Press Reports. <http://www.louisianaschools.net/lde/saa/3096.asp>
- (a) 2009 SPS, DPS, and Graduation Rates [XLSX]. <http://www.louisianaschools.net/lde/saa/3096.asp>
- (b) 2008-09 Detailed Press Report - Post Data Certification [XLSX]., <http://www.louisianaschools.net/lde/saa/3096.asp>
- <sup>15</sup> Minimum Foundation Report: Multi-Stats October 1, 2008- By Site-Funded Membership.  
<http://www.doe.State.la.us/lde/pair/1489.html>
- <sup>16</sup> Perry, Andre and Schwam-Baird, Michael, 2010. *School by School: The Transformation of New Orleans Public Education* in The New Orleans Index at Five. Washington, D.C., Brookings Institution and Greater New Orleans Community Data Center, p12.
- <sup>17</sup> Tulane University, Scott Cowan Institute for Public Education Initiatives, *The State of Public Education in New Orleans: 2010 Report*.
- <sup>18</sup> *Leslie's Notebook: 2009 School Performance Scores*.
- <sup>19</sup> 2007-2008 *Louisiana State Educational Progress Report*, July 2009, 49-50.
- <sup>20</sup> Hatfield, Charles, *Louisiana's Accountability System: 10 Year Reality Check*, April, 2009. [www.researchonreforms.org](http://www.researchonreforms.org)
- <sup>21</sup> Hatfield, Charles, *Recovery School District's Myth of Educational Turnaround in New Orleans*, June, 2010.  
[www.researchonreforms.org](http://www.researchonreforms.org)

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